

HOME PDR MULTI-DRUG SEARCH STEDMAN'S HELP FEEDBACK PDR/ADDENDA HERBALS

STEDMAN'S The Best Words in Medicine.™

Electronic Library™

Stedman's Definition

Enter a word or phrase to search for. (HINT: Highlight a word with the mouse and use copy and paste)

Stedman's Medical Dictionary 27th Edition

cirrhosis

Endstage liver disease characterized by diffuse damage to hepatic parenchymal cells, with nodular regeneration, fibrosis, and disturbance of normal architecture; associated with failure in the function of hepatic cells and interference with blood flow in the liver, frequently resulting in jaundice, portal hypertension, ascites, and ultimately biochemical and functional signs of hepatic failure. [G. *kirrhos*, yellow (liver), + *-osis*, condition] **alcoholic c.** that frequently develops in chronic alcoholism, characterized in an early stage by enlargement of the liver due to fatty change with mild fibrosis, and later by Laënnec c. with contraction of the liver. **biliary c.** due to biliary obstruction, which may be a primary intrahepatic disease or secondary to obstruction of extrahepatic bile ducts; the latter may lead to cholestasis and proliferation in small bile ducts with fibrosis, but marked disturbance of the lobular pattern is infrequent. SEE ALSO: primary biliary c. **capsular c. of liver** SYN: Glisson c. **cardiac c.** an extensive fibrotic reaction within the liver as a result of chronic constrictive pericarditis or prolonged congestive heart failure; true c. with fibrous bridging of lobules is unusual. SYN: cardiac liver, congestive c., pseudocirrhosis, stasis c. **congestive c.** SYN: cardiac c. **cryptogenic c.** of unknown etiology, with no history of alcoholism or previous acute hepatitis. **fatty c.** early nutritional c., especially in alcoholics, in which the liver is enlarged by fatty change, with mild fibrosis. **Glisson c.** chronic perihepatitis with thickening and subsequent contraction, resulting in atrophy and deformity of the liver. SYN: capsular c. of liver. **Hanot c.** SYN: primary biliary c. **juvenile c.** SYN: chronic active hepatitis. **Laënnec c.** in which normal liver lobules are replaced by small regeneration nodules, sometimes containing fat, separated by a fairly regular framework of fine fibrous tissue strands (hob-nail liver); usually due to chronic alcoholism. Can cause severe impairment of liver function, portal hypertension with ascites and esophageal varices, and life-threatening complications. SYN: portal c. **necrotic c.** SYN: postnecrotic c. **nutritional c.** occurring in persons or animals with general or specific dietary deficiencies; methionine and cystine deficiency may produce changes of c. in animals, but it is uncertain whether malnutrition in humans leads to c. or only to reversible fatty infiltration of the liver. **periportal c.** of the liver with wide bands of fibrosis surrounding large segments of liver, with regenerative nodules. **pigment c.** of the liver associated with dark brown discoloration seen in hemochromatosis. **pigmentary c.** resulting from excessive deposits of iron in the liver, usually seen in hemochromatosis. **pipe stem c.** of the liver with fingerlike fibrosis predominantly around portal tracts, seen in schistosomiasis. Leads to portal hypertension but rarely to functional failure of the liver. **portal c.** SYN: Laënnec c. **posthepatitic c.** SYN: chronic

active hepatitis. **postnecrotic c. c.** characterized by necrosis involving whole hepatic lobules, with collapse of the reticular framework to form large scars; regeneration nodules are also large; may follow viral or toxic necrosis, or develop as a result of ischemic necrosis. SYN: necrotic c. **primary biliary c.** a condition occurring mainly in middle-aged women, characterized by obstructive jaundice with hyperlipemia, pruritis, and hyperpigmentation of the skin; no obstruction of large bile ducts or proliferation of small bile ducts is found; the liver shows c. with marked portal infiltration by lymphocytes and plasma cells, and frequently by epithelioid cell granulomas; serum antimitochondrial antibodies are present in 85–90% of patients. SYN: Hanot c. **pulmonary c. fibrosis** of the lungs; usually interstitial pulmonary fibrosis. **stasis c.** SYN: cardiac c. **syphilitic c. c.** of the liver occurring as a result of tertiary or congenital syphilis. **toxic c. c.** of the liver resulting from chronic poisoning, as by lead or carbon tetrachloride.

Copyright© 2000 Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2002 by Medical Economics Company, Inc. at Montvale, NJ 07645. All rights reserved.
Monographs from the 2002 Physicians Desk Reference
[Click here to read our Warranty and Disclaimer.](#)